

Vibrations



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Planners Institute

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Planificateurs de l'Ontario

Fall 1998 Vol. 22, No. 3

Queen's SURP Report



Front left to back right to back left: Terence Leung, Brenda Burjaw (Student Volunteer Coordinator/OPPI Student Representative), Paul Sajan, Allison Christie, Gerry Melenka, Rob McRae, Peter Walberg

by Brenda Burjaw

Just about a month ago, a group of urban planning students met for the first time at the Ambassador Hotel in Kingston. The OPPI Symposium was the venue and volunteering was their vehicle. The group gathered in a room to stuff business cardholders. As we formed a few efficient assembly lines, we quickly learned that we represented all of Ontario. We had planning students from Waterloo, Ryerson Polytechnic, and Queen's. This diverse group quickly bonded while becoming accustomed to their environment. As the days moved on, the volunteer students began networking. One student in particular made a very valuable contact. Allison Christie started the symposium with hopes to find a job and she did. This was just one awesome example of how volunteering can open doors.

During the symposium the volunteers were able to sit in on many of the sessions. These sessions proved to be both inspirational and insightful. Looking back now, I wish that I had been able to sit in on a few more sessions. One session that did make an impact in my life was one entitled 'Have you considered the Non-Profit Sector?' During this session I was pleasantly reassured that there are people out there that actually care. It

has inspired me to the point that I have made it my goal to influence fellow urban planning students to get involved in their respective communities.

At the School of Urban and Regional Planning at Queen's University, we have started to turn the wheels of volunteerism. During orientation week, approximately 20 SURP students were given the opportunity to give back to a community that has welcomed them with open arms. We spent the morning landscaping a property that housed a woman's shelter. The women were very thankful and the children sang for us. The feelings that we got from getting dirty and helping out together became addictive. Before we knew it, we were done and talking about the next time.

Planners may be overlooking the significant contributions that they could be making in their communities by volunteering. For many it is easy to work hard and make money. But for many it is impossible to work hard for none. My challenge to all planning students and planners alike is to spend some of your time volunteering. Get involved and never forget about the non-profit sector.

Emanations from the Chair by Dennis Jacobs



Summer has drawn to an inevitable close and for those of us fortunate enough to attend the Symposium in Kingston, it went out on a high note. A thank you from the Eastern District goes out to Bob Maddocks and his committee for organizing an excellent and entertaining experience which once again has set the bar one rung higher for future events. For the fall, Urban Forum is bringing in some very interesting speakers to challenge our ideas and approaches to urban design. Mark October 8th on your calendars and be prepared to think 'outside the box'. October 8th is the date for our Annual General Meeting at Minto Place. This is an important event as it provides a forum for the membership to bring forward ideas to the Executive on all aspects of the Institute and your membership interests. I hope to see you there.

Awards by Don Maciver

At the Kingston Symposium, the Excellence in Planning Awards were presented. This is now a Province wide exercise. Some sixteen awards were handed to individuals and groups. And some pretty impressive and interesting work was recognized. The descriptions of the various projects gave a clear indication and picture of the skills that planners must use in balancing diverse interests in the social, economic and environmental realms.

Eastern District's Nick Tunnacliffe, Commissioner of Planning and Development at the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton, accepted a Professional Merit Award, on behalf of his staff and the Region, for the new Ottawa-Carleton Official Plan. The Plan was described as providing "a new benchmark in ... comprehensive and integrated planning policy across a wide, spectrum of development interests." Congratulations to all those at Ottawa-Carleton involved in the development of the Plan and especially to those with the courage and vision to approve it.

Awards for Outstanding Planning went to the Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth for their work on sustainability indicators, to Urban Strategies Inc. and the Town of Oakville Planning Department for "Oakville's Uptown Core", to the Planning Partnership team for the "Vaughan Corporate Centre Secondary Planning Study" and to Planning and Engineering Initiatives Ltd. for the "Waterloo Westside Trail System Master Plan".

The award itself took on a new look this year. It is a very handsome ceramic tile cast in earth tones from the Winifred Pottery and Tile Works in Windsor, Ontario.

A special thanks must go to Dr. David Gordon at Queens University, Tony Sroka and Arnold Faintuck for again agreeing to act as judges in the awards process.

In a final note, it is NOT too early to be thinking about your submission for the 1999 Excellence in Planning Awards. Give Don Maciver a call at (613) 692-3571 (ext.105) if you have any questions.

Vibrations

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A Planner Takes a Hike (An African Tale)

by Marc Sarrazin.

Editor's Note: Marc worked for the past three years with the NCC on such projects as the Greenbelt Master Plan and the Plan for Canada's Capital. He has just completed his world travels, fulfilling a dream of seeing old friends and experiencing new places. His travels took him through southeast Asia, the Middle East, and East Africa. Keeping in touch through e-mail, we asked Marc to be Vibrations international correspondent. Here is his second report.



The following is an excerpt from a letter to a friend after my stay in East Africa. The disclaimer to this story is that it holds little 'planning' content other than the shared experience of a colleague.

"..... I went to Tanzania for a week and a bit to go on Safari and see the Swahili coast. I arrived in a town called Arusha and arranged for a safari trip with some other travelers that I met. The group included a Swedish couple, and two English girls, all easy going and fun. Our Safari took us to three National parks: Lake Manyara, the Ngorogoro Crater, and the 'Mighty' Serengeti (so called many times by the guy who sold us on the trip). There is nothing like the aggressiveness of the touts in Africa!

The Ngorogoro crater is like a little Garden of Eden with every sort of creature imaginable including lions, wildebeest by the score, giraffe, elephants, hippos, zebras, and hyenas to name a few. One of the highlights was the rare sighting of a huge python. This thing was massive. It was about 25ft long, real thick in the middle and was just slithering along looking for its next meal. The English girls, Meeghan and Chris, were pretty excited about seeing a black rhino with its little baby. I personally found the giraffe quite special, and we were able to get real close. They are kind of funny looking creatures that don't really resemble anything else. The slow movement of their necks and legs are awkward and yet graceful at the same time.

In the Serengeti we saw wildebeest and zebras by the thousands, I mean huge herds of them as far as the eye could see. But the real 'trip' in the Serengeti happened on our second night of camping. It was about 3am, and we began to hear the roaring of lions in the distance and then the sound came closer ... and closer until we had a pride of about fifteen lions hanging around our tents. We cuddled in the security of our sleeping bags and were too scared to even whisper to each other.

After roaring back and forth for an hour or so, the lions quieted down and in the distance we could hear the grunting of an unsuspecting warthog. Well, it wasn't long before the grunting turned into squealing! From the next tent, Carl and Sarah said they could hear the lions eating their early morning snack. When I cautiously got out of my tent at about 6 a.m. the lions were still hanging around in the grass not far off. I followed the two Swedish and Norwegian guys as they attempted to get closer to two large females that were about 20 meters away. They wanted to capture them on film with their infrared camcorder. It was just before sunrise and our flashlights made deep red reflections of their retina which made me think twice about moving closer. With the two Scandinavians about 20 ft. in front of me I figured they would get eaten first if one of the lions decided to make a move. And each of them was more than a meal.

At one point, while I was distracted for a moment, one of the lions let out a loud roar into the cool morning air, and all I saw was the two Scandinavians in full retreat. Without even considering it, some primordial instinct from deep within had my legs moving at maximum revolution. I think we set a record for the 50m dash! It turned out that the lioness just wanted to let us know that we weren't to go any further. She hadn't even moved. All in all, it was an amazing night.

.... Kenya and Tanzania are amazing countries with a beautiful variety of geography and wildlife. I must return some day and spend more time exploring the wild treasures in the national parks here."

Stay tuned for the final article, which will sum up these foreign adventures with reflections on how they relate to planning in the Ottawa Region.

Editor's Note: Marc Sarrazin is currently seeking to work with a dynamic team of consultants in the Ottawa area.

Local Governance in Ottawa-Carleton

Is there a (single) answer? *by Cameron McEwen*

I, like many other residents of Ottawa-Carleton, have intentionally distanced myself from the seemingly endless debate over a new model of governance for the area due to personal time constraints and the vague uncertainty surrounding how the various models would affect me directly if adopted. However, I have found my recent review of the extensive background material and media coverage on this topic to be both a valuable learning experience and confirmation that the members of the general public, let aside practicing planners, have not been given a concise overview of the concepts associated with each individual model. Therefore, the purpose of this article is to briefly examine the general concepts associated with the various alternative models for governance in Ottawa-Carleton that are currently under discussion.

One/Mega City Model

Also referred to as the Watson Model after Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson, a motion to support this proposed model was adopted unanimously by the City of Ottawa Policy Priorities and Budgeting Committee in April of this year. In June, Regional Council also voted to support a similar proposal to amalgamate the existing municipalities into a single mega-city, which essentially only differs from the Watson model in the number of councillors involved. The general principles associated with this model are as follows:

- The current municipalities of Cumberland, Gloucester, Rockcliffe Park, Vanier, Nepean, Kanata and Ottawa, and the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton would be eliminated and replaced by a new single-tier body to be known as the new 'City of Ottawa';
- The remaining four rural municipalities - Goulbourn, West Carleton, Rideau and Osgoode - would be invited to join the new City, or could remain independent based upon a 'Rural Alliance Model' (see #2 below); and,
- The new Council would be comprised of 20 councillors and 1 mayor (excluding the rural municipalities) and Ward boundaries could reflect existing communities and be based on representation by population.

The Mega City Model calls for the establishment of a Steering Committee, comprised of 1 mayor and councillor from each of the current municipalities, as well as the Regional Chair and 1 Regional Councillor. Once struck, this Steering Committee would begin the planning process for the amalgamation to be completed by January 2, 2001.

Urban/Rural Model

Also referred to as the Beamish Model, the draft discussion paper associated with this model was first released by Regional Councillor Dan Beamish in April 1997. There has been no discernable political or public support for this model since the discussion paper was first released. The general principles associated with this model are as follows:

- The current municipalities of Cumberland, Gloucester, Rockcliffe Park, Vanier, Nepean, Kanata and Ottawa would be amalgamated to form a single 'urban city';
- The remaining four rural municipalities - Goulbourn, West Carleton, Rideau and Osgoode - would be retained under a separate model of rural governance. Under a proponent/political umbrella known locally as The Rural Alliance, the details associated with this model for the rural municipalities has been more clearly documented and communicated to all interested stakeholders than any other model to date;
- The new urban Council would be comprised of 16 councillors and 1 mayor, based upon the current RMOC Ward boundaries which were developed in 1994; and,
- While the 4 councillors and 1 mayor associated with each existing rural municipality would be retained initially, the Rural Alliance advocates adopting a common committee system amongst the four municipalities which would include a new Council and an Executive Committee.

Tri-City Model

Supported primarily by the current Mayors, Council and senior staff in Gloucester, Kanata and Nepean, two of these bodies voted separately on June 2, 1998 to endorse an

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Local Governance in Ottawa-Carleton (continued)

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alternative model for governance in Ottawa-Carleton. The Tri-City model would be based on the following general principles:

- The current municipalities of Kanata and Nepean would amalgamate to form a new 'Western City';
- The current municipalities of Gloucester and Cumberland would amalgamate to form a new 'Eastern City';
- The remaining municipalities - Ottawa, Vanier and Rockcliffe Park - would amalgamate to form a new 'Central City';
- The model does not make specific provisions for the remaining rural municipalities of Osgoode, Rideau, Goulbourn and West Carleton; and,
- The Tri-City model advocated the creation of separate Councils for each new city. Both the Eastern and Western City would have a Council with 7 councillors each. The Central City would have a Council with 13 councillors.

With the exception of the City of Kanata, all of those that initially supported this model have withdrawn from a public referendum previously slated for October of this year.

Five City Region

Presented only in a newspaper article in August 1998, a local geospace consultant and a planner in Victoria, B.C. advocate the creation of a 5-city region. The general principles associated with this model are as follows:

- Local geographic features, such as the Ottawa River, the Rideau River and the greenbelt, would be used to delineate five new and distinct municipalities;
- Two twin core cities would be created within the Greenbelt divided by the Rideau River;
- Three satellite cities in the east, west and south would be created outside of the Greenbelt;
- The 5-City model retains regional government but recommends clarifying certain responsibilities using B.C.'s experience with upper/lower-tier models;
- The new Councils for each of the 5 cities would be comprised of 1 councillor for each ward, plus 1

mayor elected at-large for each city. All mayors and designated councillors would comprise the new regional council.

After reviewing each of these models, it is important to acknowledge two related issues with regard to any future action on the structure of government in Ottawa-Carleton.

First, the level of public dialogue must be broadened to include a detailed analysis of the advantages and disadvantages associated with all models currently under consideration. In defending their positions on any one given model, local proponents and their associated public relations materials are often too quick to address how a single model relates to another. What is still lacking is an effort on the part of all those involved in the governance debate to provide all of the facts, financial data and anticipated socio-cultural changes associated with all models. Hopefully, this article is a step in this direction.

Second, the degree to which any of the alternative models outlined above can be linked to a clear official position of either Regional Council or any of the local municipal Councils is suspect at best. Motions have been made by Regional Councillors and local Mayors, models have been publicly endorsed by the Regional Chair, and a local member of our high-tech community even felt obligated to contribute to the debate. As outlined in official correspondence from The Premier of Ontario in August of this year, the Province will only act on appropriate legislation if a solution to the governance debate is developed and supported locally. With this in mind, one needs to ask who or what will it take to move any of the models addressed in this article out of the local coffee shops, church halls, Council chambers and newsrooms and into Queen's Park. While an optimist at heart, I won't be holding my breath waiting.

One Upcoming Event Important Date

Provisional Members' Social

(open to all Eastern District members)

Tuesday, 10 November, 1998, El Meson, 94 Beechwood Ave., 5:30 – 9:00 p.m. Food and Cash Bar, Presentation at 6:30

BREAKING OUT



OPPI SYMPOSIUM • KINGSTON 1998

BREAKING OUT



OPPI SYMPOSIUM • KINGSTON 1998

by Barb McMullen

Bob Maddocks and his 1998 Planning Committee and sub-committees should be heartily congratulated for a very successful annual OPPI symposium in August in Kingston. From start to finish, the tightly-packed "Breaking Out" program offered the over 230 registrants a well-balanced choice of educational, motivational, social, and camaraderie opportunities and events.

On the social side, Tuesday night's gala dinner Parole Party was a resounding "break-out" in itself. Eddy & The Stingrays had nearly everyone on the



dance floor at some point, including some very young "planners", as well as our Executive Director, Susan Smith and her fiancée. Two Eastern District members of the local police force

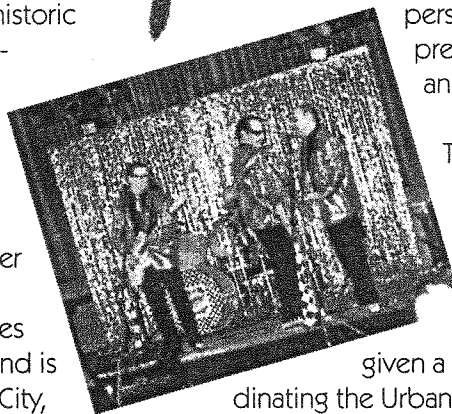
also made an unexplained appearance. The Sunday night Tailgate Party, and the Monday night Pub Crawl were also very popular, the latter led by an authentic bagpiper through Kingston's historic downtown. The Queen also made a unexpected and dramatic appearance at Tuesday's awards luncheon (said to have been arranged by Bob Maddocks).

Under the scenario "when change is not a choice", Monday morning's keynote speaker Myles Rademan provided a strong set of motivational strategies for leadership. Myles is trained as both a planner and a lawyer and is currently Director of Public Affairs at Parks City, Utah. Myles' "4V" model of leadership - values, vision, voice, and virtue - requires risk-taking, curiosity in everything, and taking personal responsibility for outcomes. He also emphasized the need for anticipatory learning and

farsightedness, high standards of integrity, and interdependence to achieve common goals.

In his Wednesday morning symposium summary remarks, Myles shared a number of his observations about Canada. He perceives a "great Canadian invasion" of the U.S. planning profession, sees Canadian cities as some of the more livable in North America, and believes Canadians embody community and stability more readily than most Americans.

At Tuesday morning's plenary session, Major Dee Brasseur challenged us to find something we'd do every day without pay (although strangely, no-one in the audience currently had). She advised us to not only actively plan for success, but to visualize what you want to do. Dee, who speaks from direct experience, attained the rank of Major in the Canadian military corporate ladder, and became one of the first three women pilots in the Canadian military and one of only two female pilots in the world to fly a CF-18 fighter aircraft. Dee's personal recipe for success takes advantage of unique personal abilities, overcomes obstacles, prefers doing to trying, learns from failures, and works within all kinds of limitations.

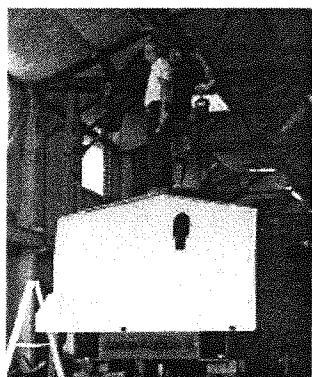


The Tuesday OPPI Annual General Meeting included the presentation of 1998 awards. (The Excellence in Planning Awards are described in Don Maciver's article in this issue.) Sylvie Grenier of the Eastern District was given a 1998 Member Service Award for coordinating the Urban Forum speakers series, which this year has expanded to Toronto. Other AGM business items included approval of a 5% increase in 1999 membership fees and the appointment of a special task force to prepare an OPPI Strategic Plan action plan.

Also sandwiched into the symposium's business events were a national CIP Council meeting (a "first" at the OPPI Annual Symposium, arranged by President Patrick Déoux), as well as a round-table meeting of OPPI Executives and Councils where executive members shared ideas and information.



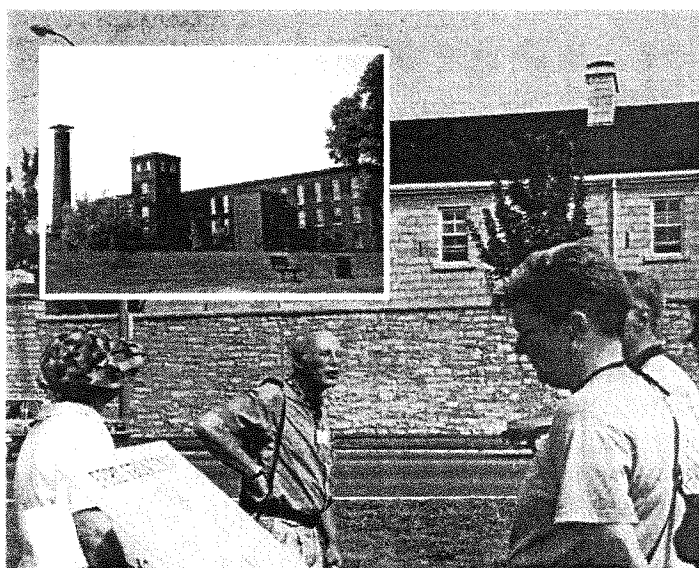
The six Monday afternoon mobile workshops provided a choice of tours, such as those of the Kingston Waterfront Trust, Downtown Kingston, Prince Edward County, and the Town of Perth and the Rideau River. I chose the walking tour of Kingston's Inner Harbour brownfield development. Hugh Gale of the City of Kingston pointed out the evolution of



four land use stages of Kingston's "forgotten waterfront", including its early native and later European military uses, its rail and working waterfront stage, and its still-evolving commercial, residential, leisure, and working waterfront uses. The adaptive re-use of an 1880 woolen mill, and the fascinating tour of the Metalcraft

Marine plant, which builds aluminum commercial working boats and maintains an active dry dock, were definite highlights.

The twenty concurrent Tuesday and Wednesday panelist sessions offered registrants excellent choice from a broad



variety of topics, such as: career changes, rural and economic development, municipal re-structuring, developing a planning consultant practice, international planning, waterfront regeneration trusts, university and municipal cooperation, and a GIS demonstration forum. My three choices proved very useful, and my only regret is that I didn't double up to sit in on additional sessions.

On Tuesday morning I attended Creative Approaches to Cultural Heritage Resource Planning, featuring panelists Winston Wong of the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, who discussed the provincial legislative context for cultural heritage landscape planning; Leslie Klein of Quadrangle Architects Ltd., who discussed heritage and non-heritage adaptive re-use issues; and, Jim Wilson of Archaeologix Inc., who described the methodology and use of London's GIS archaeological master plan, the first in Ontario.



My Tuesday afternoon choice was the Alternative Development Standards panel, featuring Mary Frances Turner of the Town of Markham, who discussed the application of new urbanism

principles through alternative development standards on some 6000 acres of land in Markham; Dan Leeming of The Planning Partnership, who described some details of the Cornell and Angus Glen projects in Markham; and Mary Jarvis of the Eastern District, who described Minto Development's new urbanism approach in some Ottawa-Carleton area projects.

Finally, "Urban Design—Not Just For the Big City", my Wednesday morning choice, reviewed the award-winning Stoney Creek Olde Town Urban Design Plan. Steve Miazaka of the City of Stoney Creek, who managed the preparation and implementation of the plan, and Sonny Tomich of Dillon Consulting, who prepared the plan, described its context, methodology and content.

My only disappointments in the otherwise excellent symposium were the hotel's somewhat remote distance from Kingston's lively, historic downtown, and the hotel's several times-mentioned proximity to a (reportedly) significant wetland.

Next year's symposium will be hard-pressed to do better!

Planning near the Water

by Don Mciver

As a consequence of Provincial downloading, municipalities are now responsible for a host of issues never before considered possible including managing and protecting the environment.

Associated with such new environmental responsibilities, an interesting partnership is emerging between the Canada Department of Fisheries and Oceans and Ontario's Conservation Authorities. From 1989 until the Fall of 1997 DFO had an "Interim Referral Process" in place with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources whereby MNR exercised certain powers on behalf of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. The agreement has now lapsed. Fisheries and Oceans Canada is now entering into new agreements with Ontario's Conservation Authorities whereby the watershed will be used as a basis for ensuring that fish habitat are protected. This will be done both through the administration of water management regulations for which conservation authorities are the approval authority but also through the review of applications under Ontario's Planning Act in which C.A.'s are still a review agency.

As an example, on June 25 1998 the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and DFO signed a "Fish Habitat Management Agreement Respecting Worksharing Arrangements for Initial Review Determinations and Mitigation Requirements for the purpose of Section 35 of the Fisheries Act". Under the terms of this agreement the C.A. will determine if a harmful alteration, disturbance or destruction (HADD) of fish habitat is likely related to the execution of the project. If mitigation will avoid the HADD then a plan will be approved and monitored. In a case where HADD can not be avoided and compensation is required, the matter will be referred directly to DFO. Enforcement also remains in the hands of Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Agreements with other conservation authorities throughout Ontario are to follow.

New Members:

OPPI (Eastern Ontario District)

PROVISIONAL MEMBERS

Kevin Neal	City of Kanata
Sean Rathwell	OC Transpo

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Carol Timusk retired from the City of Kanata on August 28, 1998, after 25 years of service. Carol will be living near Wilno, Ontario.

Dana Collings at the City of Nepean recently became a Senior Planner in the Policy Division.

Allison Christie has recently transferred to Eastern District OPPI and is now working with Essiambre and Associates.

More Upcoming Events Important Dates

Urban Forum Series: "What Makes Great Streets?"

A free lecture by Allan Jacobs, Architect, Chair of the Department of City and Regional Planning at the University of California.

7:00 p.m., Wednesday, 28 October, 1998, Champlain Room, Ottawa-Carleton Centre, 111 Lisgar Street (also in Toronto at the Design Exchange on 29 October)

"Ways to enhance the public function of a typical regional road"

Professional Development Workshop by Allan Jacobs
1:00 - 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, 28 October, 1998, Ottawa-Carleton Centre. Call 560-6058 ext. 1597 to register (attendance limited to 30 people) \$40 (\$10 with student card)

Ottawa's X-Files: Lost Visions, forgotten dreams.

A panel of historians, critics and professionals will highlight some projects that never left the proposal stage.

7:00 p.m., Wednesday, 27 January, 1999, Champlain Room.